

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 were pending in the present application. Claims 2-7 and 12-18 were withdrawn from consideration. By virtue of this response, claims 1-7 and 12-18 have been cancelled, claim 8 has been amended, and new claims 19-34 have been added. Accordingly, claims 8-11 and 19-34 are currently under consideration. Amendment and cancellation of certain claims is not to be construed as a dedication to the public of any of the subject matter of the claims as previously presented. Support for new claims 19-34 can be found in pages 13-15 and 20 of the specification. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8-11 are allowed. Accordingly, claim 8 has been rewritten in independent format. Accordingly, claim 8 and all its dependent claims should be in condition for allowance.

Rejections under 35 USC §102(b)

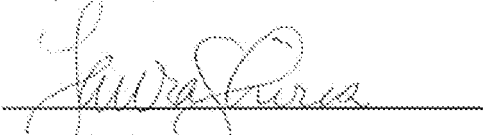
Claim 1 is rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Giustino (U.S. Patent No. 3,815,694).

In an effort to advance the application to allowance, claim 1 has been cancelled.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejections and pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Laura L. Shires", is written over a horizontal dotted line.

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